

Urban District of Kenilworth.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1948,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

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1949.

38, HOLLY WALK,

LEAMINGTON SPA.

September, 1949.

To the Kenilworth Urban District Council.

Mr. CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1948, this is the 30th Annual Report I have presented to you.

As in the past few years this Report is restricted to a statement of facts, but a more extended report is given by the Sanitary Inspector.

Kindness has been extended to me by members of the Council and my colleagues, for which I am most grateful.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Kenilworth Urban District

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1948	...	...	10,160
Birth Rate	...	...	21.0
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	32
Death Rate	...	...	8.4
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	{ From Sepsis ,, other causes		—
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	19
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	15
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	77
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

The Birth-rate was higher than the average for the previous ten years.

The Death-rate was lower than in 1947, and lower than the average for the past 8 years.

The Infant Mortality rate was much lower than in 1947, and also lower than that for England and Wales, viz., 34.

Statistics for England and Wales are shown at the foot of Table II.

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

1. *Public Health Officers*.—Your Additional Sanitary Inspector resigned in June of this year, and the appointment was not filled. The staff is therefore as follows :—

One combined post—Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

One Assistant Surveyor.

One part-time Clerk.

2. *Laboratory Facilities*.—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria	...	21	21
Enteric Fever	...	—	—
Tuberculosis	2	15	17
			38

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1. (i) *Water Supply*.—The three boreholes—each with electrically driven centrifugal pumps—have given their normal yield throughout the year. In the early part of the year the Mather and Platt pump (No. 1 borehole) was lifted for overhaul. A certain amount of binding had occurred with this pump after coming to rest, but there was no apparent defect, and the only conclusion can be that there may at times be ochre present in the water lubricated bearings, this clearing itself immediately the pump has been restarted.

The “Turn-Over” chlorinating apparatus was received back during the year and reinstalled by the makers, but has not been very satisfactory for low dosing.

The water level recorder to the Knowle Hill reservoir has needed attention on one occasion, but has otherwise worked satisfactorily.

Water main extensions have been made in Guy’s Road, Mortimer Road and St. Nicholas’ Avenue in connection with the Bulkington Housing Estate, the mains being 4in. and 6in. and installed for some 100 houses.

Twelve services for new properties have been installed and four new meter services, while repairs have been carried out to 15 house services and 6 meter services.

After the completion of the drainage system putting Holly Cottage on the main sewer, contracts were let for sinking a trial borehole on the Birmingham Road site, and this work was actively commenced during the year.

The water recorded as pumped totalled 94,110,000 gallons, giving an average of 258,109 g.p.d., as against the previous year of 286,622 and 266,896 gallons per day for 1946. The supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. 11 specimens of raw water were taken for bacteriological analysis and one for chemical analysis. The results were satisfactory and showed a high standard of purity.

The Chemical analysis was as follows :—

Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	0
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	2.3
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	...	0.22
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at at 800°F. in 4 hours	...	...	...	0.002
Total Solids dried at 100°C.	...	...	...	40

Nitrite	...	...	...	...	...	Absent.
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	Absent

Appearance : Bright, few small particles.

The above results shew that water is chemically of a very high degree of purity and suitable for use as a public supply.

No special action was taken for treatment of contaminated water.

About 98% of the population have a pipe supply of water in the urban district. Of that quantity it is estimated that not more than 5% is by means of standpipes, the remainder being direct to houses.

Water mains serve all but the very remote parts of the district.

During the year the first contract for main sewers and surface water drainage for the Bulkington Housing Estate was completed, and in excessive rains there has been some flooding in Warwick Road, where the new scheme connects to the existing, and this will be a matter involving works of sewer relief on some future occasion.

38 sewer stoppages were removed during the year.

The Sewage Disposal Works has had a certain amount of work done to it by alterations to the settling tanks. A scheme now being proceeded with out of revenue, by which the two existing rectangular tanks will be converted to six hopper bottom tanks. The Sewage Flow Recorder together with the necessary alterations to the channels etc., has been practically completed, and should be in operation early next year.

Tan waste was received at the Disposal Works on two occasions during the year, and were satisfactorily dealt with in each instance.

2. *Rivers and Streams*.—Heavy flooding occurred during excessive rain in Warwick Road, Bridge Street, Spring Lane and Mill End, and extensive cleaning out to streams and water courses was attended to.

3. *Public Cleansing*.—The weekly collection of house refuse has continued, and all property is provided with moveable, covered, dustbins. The collection of paper and rags diminished very considerably.

D. HOUSING.

The usual Table has been completed and is being kept for reference.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply*.—The number of registrations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order is 31 ; of these 9 were retailers only, 3 producer-retailers, and 19 producers-wholesalers.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulation, 1936-1946.—The following licences have been issued for the production of designated milk in the urban district by the Warwickshire County Council :—

Accredited—Production	...	...	...	...	8
Tuberculin Tested—Production	ans	Sale	by		
retail	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculin Tested Production	...	...	...	...	1

One licence has been issued to pasturise milk within the urban district.

Three supplementary T.T. milk licences have been issued to sell T.T. milk in the urban district.

Four supplementary licences to sell pasteurised milk in the urban district have been issued.

(b) *Meat*.—Visits have been made by the Inspector as required.

(c) *Other Trades*.—Bakehouses have been inspected, but no notices were served.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1940.

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1941	...	9	16	2	6	—	1
1942	...	3	11	—	1	—	1
1943	...	—	15	—	16	—	—
1944	...	2	19	—	3	—	—
1945	...	—	30	1	1	—	—
1946	...	5	20	—	9	—	1
1947	...	2	10	—	3	—	1
1948	...	—	19	—	2	—	—

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified.

Scarlet Fever.—The number of cases was less than the average for the past 10 years.

Diphtheria.—No cases were notified.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—Immunisation continued during the year, and up to December 31st, 1210 school children had been treated, and 828 children either privately or at Infant Welfare Centres, giving a total of 2,038.

Poliomyelitis.—No cases were notified.

School Closures.—Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS			NEW CASES.						DEATHS.					
			Pulmonary.		Non-		Pulmonary.		Non-					
					M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
1	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
5	—	—	...	2	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
15	—	1	...	—	1	...	—	—	...	1	—
25	2	2	...	1	—	...	1	—	...	—	—
35	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
45	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
55	2	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
65 and upwards			...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—	—
TOTALS			...	4	3	...	3	1	...	1	—	...	1	—

11 new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, 7 being of pulmonary tuberculosis, and 4 of other forms.

1 death was due to pulmonary and 1 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis.—The following table shews the cases notified, and deaths for the past 20 years :—

		1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	
Cases		12	9	10	9	7	6	
Deaths		7	6	5	9	3	8	
		1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Cases	10	10	10	9	10	19	14	
Deaths	5	5	4	4	4	4	8	
		1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Cases	11	9	10	9	9	4	11	
Deaths	5	2	3	1	3	6	2	

Treatment.—3 cases were admitted to the Sanatorium for treatment during the year, 3 discharged.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kenilworth Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure, as Sanitary Inspector, in submitting my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1948.

Nuisances.

Notices were served in respect of 207 nuisances, details of which are set out in Table 1.

Infectious Diseases Notification.

20 cases of acute infectious Disease, other than Tuberculosis, were notified during the year, and of these 19 were Scarlet Fever; and one Erysipelas.

The patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital and the premises disinfected in each instance.

Tuberculosis.

Disinfectants are supplied free to necessitous persons suffering from Tuberculosis. Disinfections were carried out in connection with 2 cases during the year.

Disinfection of Premises.

In addition to the disinfection referred to above, two houses were disinfected after death.

Bedding was fumigated in two instances. It has not been found necessary to destroy any bedding during the year.

Water Supply.

Three pumps now operate the town water supply, and are electrically operated centrifugal, giving the following yields:—

No. 1 Borehole.	Mather & Platt Pump.	8,000 gallons per hour.
No. 2 Borehole.	Harland Pump.	12,000 gallons per hour.
No. 3 Borehole.	Pulsometer Pump.	15,000 gallons per hour.

The Mather and Platt pump has to be dismantled owing to badly seizing, and has worked satisfactorily since re-assembly.

The chlorinator was returned from Messrs. Turn-Over Filter Co., and re-assembled, but is not satisfactory with low dosing.

The water main extensions to the Bulkington Housing Estate have continued, and the average daily water consumption for the year is 258,109 gallons.

34 certificates have been issued under the Public Health Water Act of 1878.

Drainage and Sewerage.

38 sewer stoppages were removed, and the high points on the sewers where the flow is small have been flushed at regular intervals.

Flooding occurred in the sewer system in Warwick Road, Spring Lane, Bridge Street and Mill End during heavy rains, and repairs were necessary to the sewer in Bridge Street owing to heavy pressure of water.

The whole of the foul and surface water sewers for the first contract to your Bulkington Permanent Housing Estate have been completed right down to Warwick Road.

Sewage Disposal.

The Sewage Disposal Works maintenance has proceeded normally and in view of the continuous overloading that has taken place, the plant has worked well. Work has been proceeding on the conversion of the existing settling tanks from the rectangular to hopper bottom, and this work when completed will give an estimated 30 to 40% extra settling accommodation.

The settling tanks were cleaned out periodically as required, and trade waste from the Tan-yard disposed of satisfactorily on two occasions.

Public Cleansing and Salvage.

The weekly collection of house refuse has been maintained during the year, and where available, salvage has been collected fortnightly. It is becoming extremely difficult to dispose of the paper, and fortunately in this respect the amounts now collected are relatively small.

All refuse disposal is by controlled tipping on the Council's land in Dalehouse Lane.

Shops (Shops Act, 1934).

No notices have been served in connection with Shop premises under the above Act.

Smoke Abatement.

No complaints have been received in connection with smoke abatement, and no action has been necessary during the year.

Open Air Bathing Pool.

The open-air bathing pool was opened on the 15th May and closed on the 19th September. During the period there were 15,639 attendances. The plant ran satisfactorily with the exception of one period when through a pebble lodging in one of the valves, it was necessary to close the Baths for two days, so that the defect could be rectified. A chemical analysis of the water was taken and proved satisfactory.

The bath water is filtered and chlorinated continuously during the hours of opening.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

There were two cases where action was required, and in each instance the premises were thoroughly fumigated.

Meat Regulations.

One notice respecting the slaughtering of pigs other than in slaughterhouses was received and the necessary inspection made.

120lb. of beef were found unfit for human consumption.

Unfit Food.

Tinned Foodstuffs	...	...	147 tins
Mustard	...	...	72 tins
Dried Eggs	...	...	5 packets
Ryvita	...	...	2 packets
Pom	...	...	1 packet
S.R. Flour	...	...	41 lbs.
Cod	...	...	18 stones
Kippers	...	...	4 stones
Smoked Whiting Cutlets	...	...	4 stones
Mackerel	...	...	3 stones
Finnan Haddock	...	...	3 stones
Essence	...	...	12 bottles
Piccalilli	...	...	5 jars
Gooseberries	...	...	1 jar
Eggs	...	...	92
Tomatoes (Fresh)	...	...	70 lbs.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 37 on the register, all of which have been inspected. Two notices were served, and both were complied with.

Bakehouses.

Inspections have been made of 7 bake-houses in the district.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

The number of registrations under the above order is 31 ; 9 are retailers only ; 3 are producer-retailers, and 19 producer-wholesalers. 4 persons were registered to sell pasturised milk, and two to sell T.T. milk.

Registered premises have been inspected during the year.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

A systematic treatment for rats and mice has been carried out during the year conforming to the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in respect of methods of treatment. 75 premises were treated for rats and mice, and 9 treatments of the Council's refuse tip and Sewage Works. 2 tests of the sewers proved very little evidence of the presence of rats.

New Buildings.

During the year plans have been passed for the erection of the following :—

- 76 Houses and Bungalows (56 by Local Authority).
- 27 Alterations and Additions to Houses.
- 12 Garages.
- 1 Sectional Building.
- 2 Workshop Additions.
- 1 Factory.
- 1 Addition to School.
- 1 Rebuilding of Works.
- 4 Temporary Garages.
- 1 Youth Centre.
- 1 Temporary Building.
- 2 Stores.
- 11 Miscellaneous Buildings.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON.

Surveyor, Water Engineer and Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE I.

KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1948.

	Inspections and observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances abated after notice.
		Statu- tory.	In- formal	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	... 177	—	37	28
Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milk Shops	... 91	—	1	1
Cowsheds	36	—	—	—
Bakehouses	9	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses	5	—	—	—
Canal Boats	—	—	—	—
Ashpits and privies	—	—	—	—
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	108	—	68	32
Water Closets	47	—	30	24
House Drainage	19	—	9	9
Other Nuisances	37	—	10	8
Water Supply	86	—	41	36
TOTALS	565	—	196	138

	No.
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	31
Samples of Food taken for analysis (Milk)	—
Samples of Food found adulterated	—
Samples of Water taken for analysis	13
Samples of water condemned as unfit for use...	—

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding disinfected or destroyed	...	...	2
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	—
Schools ditto ditto ditto	...	...	—
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things	...	...	—
Convictions ditto ditto ditto	...	...	—
Prosecutions for not notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	...	...	—
Convictions ditto ditto ditto	...	...	—

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON,
Surveyor, Water Engineer and Saintary Inspector

TABLE II.

KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1948 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1942	10,280	170	16.6	6	35	101	9.8
1943	10,010	168	16.8	3	18	92	9.2
1944	9,730	199	20.5	9	45	101	10.4
1945	9,470	177	18.7	5	28	94	9.9
1946	9,690	184	19.1	9	49	99	10.2
1947	9,780	211	21.6	11	52	101	10.3
1948	10,160	213	21.0	4	19	85	8.4

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1948.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1948.
(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

				Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	...	...	17.9	0.42	10.8	34	
126 Great Towns, including London			20.0	0.52	11.6	39	
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	19.2	0.43	10.7	32	
London	...	...	20.1	0.39	11.6	31	

TABLE III.

KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1948.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox										
Plague										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Group)										
Erysipelas	1				1					
Scarlet Fever	19		7	10	1	1			6	
Typhus Fever										
Enteric Fever										
Pneumonia	1	1								6
Malaria										
Dysentery										
Puerperal Pyrexia ...										
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis										
Poliomyelitis										
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum										
Polio-Encephalitis ...										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7				1	4	2			1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	4			2	1	1				1
Totals	32	1	7	12	4	6	2	—	6	8

TABLE IV.
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1948

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	48	37
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1	—
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
9 Influenza	—	—
10 Measles	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	—
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	1	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	1	—
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	3	2
15 Cancer of Breast	—	1
16 Cancer, other Sites	7	2
17 Diabetes	1	1
18 Intra Cran. Vaso. Lesions... ..	4	8
19 Heart Disease	13	8
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	4	2
21 Bronchitis	3	—
22 Pneumonia	1	5
23 Other Resp. Diseases	2	—
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	1	—
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	—	—
26 Appendicitis	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases	—	1
28 Nephritis	—	2
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31 Premature Birth	—	—
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	1	1
33 Suicide	—	—
34 Road Traffic Accidents	2	—
35 Other Violent Causes	2	—
36 All Other Causes	—	4

